REMARKS

A. Election of an Invention

In response to the restriction requirement, *Applicants hereby elect for prosecution*Group II (claims 9-12), drawn to a method that comprises (i) subjecting a sample containing minicells to a condition that induces parent bacterial cells to adopt a filamentous form and then (ii) filtering of the sample.

B. Amendments to the Claims

Upon entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 9-12 and 26-40 will be pending. Claims 1-8 and 13-25 presently are canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer, and claims 26-40 presently are added. Claims 9-10 are presently amended. The following table identifies exemplary support provided in the specification for each new claim and claim amendment.

Claim(s)	Exemplary Support
9	Page 9, lines 2-4; page 12, lines 12-13 & 15-17
10	Page 10, lines 20-29
26	Page 10, lines 12-19
27	Page 9, line 7 – page 10, line 2; page 12, lines 3-7
28	Page 8, line 30 – page 10, line 11; page 12, lines 3-7
29	Page 9, lines 16-21; Page 10, lines 6-8
30	Page 9, lines 10-13, & 19-20; page 10, lines 3-5, 89-11 & 14-17
31	Page 9, lines 2-4
32	Page 9, lines 16-21; Page 10, lines 6-8
33	Page 9, lines 10-13, & 19-20; page 10, lines 3-5, 89-11 & 14-17

Claim(s)	Exemplary Support
34	Page 11, lines 1-7
35	Page 12, line 3 – page 13, line 7; page 9, lines 2-4
36	Page 7, line 29 – page 8, line 5
37	Page 8, lines 6-9; Page 12, line 25
38	Page 9, lines 4-6
39	Page 11, line 8 – page 12, line 7; page 13, lines 7-8
40	Page 11, lines 12-19; page 13, lines 7-8

C. <u>Concluding Remarks</u>

Applicants respectfully request prompt and favorable consideration of the application as amended.

If the Examiner believes that an interview would help to advance prosecution of the application, he is invited to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone.

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicants hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorize payment of any extension fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 13 February 2006

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